REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed on October 24, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 9, and 18-19 have been amended and Claims 20-21 have been added, leaving Claims 1-5 and 7-21 for consideration upon entry of the present amendment. No new matter has been added by the amendments.

Support for Claim Amendments

Support for the amendments can be found in Applicant's specification. See, for example, in paragraphs [0024], [0025], and [0027] and FIGs. 3 and 4.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-11, 13-14, 17, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0120504 to Bushnell (hereinafter "Bushnell") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,651,053 to Mitchell (hereinafter "Mitchell"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because all of the elements in Claims 1-5, 7, 9-11, 13-14, 17 and 19 are not taught or suggested by Bushnell in further view of Mitchell.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "A method for providing a privacy management service in a telephone system by using originating calls to build a database of acceptable incoming calls, said method comprising: detecting a telephone call from a subscriber telephone number to a called party telephone number; determining if said called party telephone number is located in a subscriber database of telephone numbers corresponding to said subscriber telephone number; adding said called party telephone number to said subscriber database in response to said determining resulting in not locating said called party telephone number in said subscriber database, wherein incoming telephone calls to said subscriber telephone number from caller party telephone numbers located in the subscriber database are directly connected to the subscriber telephone number, the incoming telephone calls each displayed with caller data for a

known phone number and a private indicator for a private phone number, and incoming calls to said subscriber telephone number from caller party telephone numbers not located in the subscriber database are transmitted to a screening application; and connecting said telephone call between said subscriber telephone number and said called party telephone number." (Emphasis added.)

Bushnell is directed to a "click to dial favorites system" that maintains a listing of only the subscriber's most frequently accessed telephone numbers. (Bushnell; Abstract.) The system taught in Bushnell attempts to an improved directory search process by highlighting or limiting the list of entries resulting from a directory search to include those numbers previously dialed or from which calls were received. (Bushnell; Paragraphs [0009]-[0010].) Bushnell does not teach or suggest the element "the incoming telephone calls each displayed with caller data for a known phone number and a private indicator for a private phone number" as recited in Claim 1 as amended.

Mitchell is directed to a call screening service that assists a subscriber to the service to screen incoming calls. When the subscriber answers the call, a caller who has placed the call is identified to the subscriber without connecting the subscriber to the caller. A special caller list can be created enabling preferred callers to reach the subscriber without being screened, and a refusal list can be generated for automatically blocking calls from disfavored callers. (Mitchell; Abstract.) Mitchell does not teach or suggest "the incoming telephone calls each displayed with caller data for a known phone number and a private indicator for a private phone number" as recited in Claim 1 as amended.

Therefore, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests all of the elements of Claim 1. Applicant submits that Claim 1 is patentable over Bushnell in further view of Mitchell. Claim 2-5 and 7 depend from Claim 1 and are patentable at least due to their dependency on Claim 1. Claims 9 and 19 include similar elements as Claim 1 and are patentable for at least the same reasons that Claim 1 is patentable. Claims 10-11, 13-14 and 17 depend from Claim 9 and are patentable for at least due to their dependencies on Claim 9.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being upatentable over Bushnell and Mitchell as applied to Claim 7 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication

No. 2004/0096046, to Lection (hereinafter "Lection"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because all of the elements in Claims 8 are not taught or suggested by Bushnell and Mitchell in further view of Lection.

As stated above, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell discloses all of the elements of Claim 1, from which Claim 8 depends. Specifically, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the element "the incoming telephone calls each displayed with caller data for a known phone number and a private indicator for a private phone number" as recited in Claim 1. The addition of Lection does not cure this deficiency in Bushnell and Mitchell.

Lection is directed to a call screening system and method, including receiving an inbound telephone call destined for a called party, identifying associated caller identification data, and applying a filter list of caller identification data. Call management rules can be applied to the inbound call to manage the inbound call by either deferring the inbound call to voice mail, or automatically answering the inbound call without requiring proactive intervention by the called party. (Lection; Abstract.) Lection fails to teach or suggest at least the element "the incoming telephone calls each displayed with caller data for a known phone number and a private indicator for a private phone number" as recited in Claim 1. Therefore, Lection does not cure the deficiencies of Bushnell and Mitchell with respect to Claim 1. Accordingly, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell nor Lection, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests all of the elements of Claim 1. Applicant submits that Claim 8 is allowable at least due to its dependency on Claim 1.

Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being upatentable over Bushnell and Mitchell as applied to Claim 10 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,944,184 to Miller (hereinafter "Miller"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because all of the elements in Claims 12 are not taught or suggested by Bushnell and Mitchell in further view of Miller.

As stated above, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell discloses all of the elements of Claim 10, from which Claim 12 depends. Specifically, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the element "the incoming telephone calls each displayed with caller data for a known phone number and a private indicator for a private phone number" as

recited in Claim 10. The addition of Miller does not cure this deficiency in Bushnell and Mitchell.

Miller is directed to a network element providing service control point or database node front end processing functionality, as well as routing functionality for routing data packets through a network. A database access control (DAC) process queries a DAC database and modifies received packets to include information returned by the database lookup. (Miller; Abstract.) Miller fails to teach or suggest at least the element "the incoming telephone calls each displayed with caller data for a known phone number and a private indicator for a private phone number" as recited in Claim 10. Therefore, Miller does not cure the deficiencies of Bushnell and Mitchell with respect to Claim 10. Accordingly, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell nor Miller, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests all of the elements of Claim 10. Applicant submits that Claim 12 is allowable at least due to its dependency on Claim 10.

Claims 15-16 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being upatentable over Bushnell and Mitchell as applied to Claim 9 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,658,455 to Weinman (hereinafter "Weinman"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because all of the elements in Claims 15-16 and 18 are not taught or suggested by Bushnell and Mitchell in further view of Weinman.

As stated above, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell discloses all of the elements of Claim 9, from which Claims 15-16 and 18 depend. Specifically, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the element "the incoming telephone calls each displayed with caller data for a known phone number and a private indicator for a private phone number" as recited in Claim 9. The addition of Weinman does not cure this deficiency in Bushnell and Mitchell.

Weinman is directed to a method and system for providing a personal network directory comprises terminal apparatus including a processor, memory and a keyboard for communicating with a network server. The network server may maintain a personal network directory for a telecommunications subscriber of called and calling party telephone numbers to/from the subscriber and identification of applications software which may be periodically updated. (Weinman; Abstract.) Weinman fails to teach or suggest at least the element "the incoming

telephone calls each displayed with caller data for a known phone number and a private indicator for a private phone number" as recited in Claim 9. Therefore, Weinman does not cure the deficiencies of Bushnell and Mitchell with respect to Claim 9. Accordingly, neither Bushnell nor Mitchell nor Weinman, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests all of the elements of Claim 9. Applicant submits that Claims 15-16 and 18 are allowable at least due to their dependency on Claim 9.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicant submits that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

If any issues remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

If there are any charges with respect to this response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

CANTOR COLBURN LLP
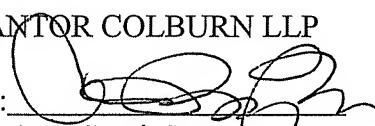
By:_____
Anne Davis Barry
Registration No. 47,408
CANTOR COLBURN LLP
55 Griffin Road South
Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone (860) 286-2929
Facsimile (860) 286-0115
Customer No. 36192

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